

February 12, 2004

Ryegate Newspapers = Harlowton Paper & Roundup

**RE: Application for a General Quarry Permit for Several Rock
Collecting Sites in Golden Valley County**

Dear Editor:

**Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of
your newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks:**

Legal Notice

**Notice of Application for Operating Permit (pursuant to the
Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-353 (1), MCA).**

**E. S. Stone and Structure, Inc. (ES Stone), P. O. Box 566, Belt,
MT filed an application on February 6, 2004 for an Operating
Permit from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality
(DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. ES
Stone has lease agreements with several ranches in Golden
Valley County to quarry and hand pick sandstone rock for
landscaping and masonry purposes. All of the operations
would be on private lands in sections 15 and 17, T6N R19E;
sections 22 and 24, T6N R20E; and sections 19 and 20, T6N
R21E.**

**ES Stone needs an operating permit because of the number of
sites involved which excludes them from operating under a
Small Miner's Exclusion Statement.**

**These operations have been reviewed for compliance under a
Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
for a General Quarry Operating Permit published by the DEQ in
February 2004. DEQ has determined that these operations do**

not meet the requirements listed in the SEA because they would have more than 5 acres unreclaimed at several sites. ES Stone cannot receive an operating permit until additional environmental analysis is completed. If ES Stone develops additional lease agreements on other ranches in the future, they would have to apply for an amendment or revision to the operating permit. If a permit is issued, ES Stone will post a reclamation bond to ensure reclamation after completion of the quarrying and rock collecting activities.

The applicant seeks approval of its application for an operating permit that would cover up to total of approximately 163 permit acres. Reclamation plans call for the reclamation of all the surface disturbances.

Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT. Please submit comments or questions on the proposal by March 15, 2003. For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 2000901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-4960 or e-mail at pplantenberg@state.mt.us

Please send your invoice and affidavit of publication to DEQ at the above address to the attention of Patrick Plantenberg. Please indicate that the bill is to be paid out of RC #5315, Doc # EMB503141. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

File pending esstone.37

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